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Diana T Fritz 02/06/2007 05:37:32 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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SIPDIS
TELEGRAM

June 16, 2004

To: No Action Addressee
Action: Unknown
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 1985 - ROUTINE)
TAGS: ELAB, PHUM, PGOV, PREL, SOCI, CVIS
Captions: None
Subject: LABOR UNIONS
Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 01985

SIPDIS
CXABU:
ACTION: POL
INFO: RSO AMB DCM P/M ECON

DISSEMINATION: POL
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: DCM:RALBRIGHT
DRAFTED: ECON:HALGHAZOU
CLEARED: ECON:OJOHN POL:JMAYBURY

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RR RUEHC RUEHDE RUCPDOC RUEHC RUEHZM
DE RUEHAD #1985 1681125
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 161125Z JUN 04
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4747
INFO RUEHDE/AMCONSUL DUBAI 4070
RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC
RUEHC/DEPT OF LABOR WASHDC
RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

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SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP, NEA/RA, DRL AND EB/CBA
STATE PASS OPIC/OPIC INTERNATIONAL POLICY DEPARTMENT FOR
VIRGINIA GREEN AND CONSTANCE SHINN
STATE PASS USTR JASON BUNTIN
USDOC FOR ITA/MAC

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [ELAB](#) [PHUM](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [SOCI](#) [CVIS](#) [GTIP](#) [TC](#)
SUBJECT: LABOR UNIONS

1. UAE Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Mattar Humaid Al-Tayer has confirmed that the Cabinet of Ministers will approve a new law this year allowing workers to join labor unions. Al-Tayer, speaking at the 92nd Session of the International Labor Organization in Geneva, said the draft law is in its final stages. He said a law allowing labor unions would put the UAE on par with other GCC states and keep pace with international developments in labor relations. A draft law has been in the pipeline for years. Trade unions would be limited to UAE citizens, Al-Tayer said. Expatriate workers would be represented through

special committees. The local press reported Al-Tayer's remarks on June 11 and 12.

¶2. Comment: The UAE has made a number of strides in improving the conditions of labor in this country. A new labor law that permits the right of association and collective bargaining is a key missing piece. The UAEG has made it clear in its discussions with us that they have concerns about their large foreign work force and how to balance labor rights with the UAE's national security concerns. They have always stated that the large population of foreign workers would have some type of representation, but this is the highest-level public statement on UAEG thinking about how it might work. End Comment

WAHBA